AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.

INTERESTING PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

THE CLAYTON BULWER TREATY.

Speech of Gen. Cass on the Central American Question.

Debate in the House on the Koszta Affair.

Passage of the Ingraham Testimonial Reso

lution, &c.,

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS. FIRST SASSION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11, 1854. Mr. Saward, (free soil) of N. Y., presented two peti

tions, when Mr. Baggirt, (dem.) of Ind., moved that all prior orde be postprized, which was agreed to, and the Senate pro-ceeded to consider the motion to refer the correspon-

dence relating to the CLAYTON AND BULWER TREATY.

Mr. Cass, (dem.) of Mich , took the floor and spoke as follows:
Mr President-At the special session of the Senate in

March last, after my departure, an extended discussion took place in relation to what is known as the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. My views and course were so much mis understood and misrepresented, that I own it to myself to e ntradict and correct much that was then said, and in this high place, where it was said, and whence it went forth to the country. But besides the personal interest I have in establishing the truth, with regard to my own position, recent circumstances and disclosures have given he whole subject arising out of that treaty additional importance, and justify its full examination. It will be recollected that in the early part of the last regular ses-sion, in consequence of authentic public statements, and especially of a proclamation announcing the establish ment of a new British colony in Central America, known as the Colony of the Bay Islan is, I introduced a resolution calling upon the executive for information upon the subject, and also asking what measures had been taken to prevent the violation of the treaty of July 4th, 1850, by which the United States and Great Britain precluded themselves mutually from occupying, or fortifying, inemserves mittasily ross occupying, or intriving, or colonising, or assuming, or exercising jurisdiction over Nicarsgos, Costa Rics, the Mosquito coast, or any part of Central America. This resolution was adopted, and in due time we received from the department of State a re-

pert that the executive had no information to communicate to the Senate in relation to the subject of the resolution; but with this return, the Secretary sent in vaious documents, which had not before been made public being the correspondence between the American and British negotiators of that treaty, which disclosed a state of facts startling to me, and, in deed, to many others in the Senate, and unlooked for he the country. It appeared that when the treaty was rati fied by the Senate, that ratification was given to the in-strument itself, without any limitation or explanation, to control the descriptive terms employed in it. The act, therefore, of the Senate, must be judged by the words of the treaty. When, however, it was sent to England for the sanction of the British government, that sanction was made conditional, or restrictive, if you please, by a declara-tion, not denying that British Honduras made part of Cen tral America, but announcing that the British govern ment d d not understand the engagements of that con vention to apply to that settlement and its dependencies And the instrument of exchange distinctly states that

"Her Majesty's ratification of the said convention is uncharged, under the explicit declaration above mentioned." The treaty was proclaimed by the American government as binding, without any devaration annexed to it, making known the restrictive construction given to it by one of the parties, and acceded to in or in part by the executive of the other. Besides this proceeding, affecting the feelings and interests of the rious in its operation, was certainly important to some o the Senators who advocated and voted for this treaty The honorable Senator from Delaware, then Secretary o State, in announcing the executive ament to the British demand, a ocompanied it, I presume, as a justification formed by the then chairman of the Committee or King, that "the Senate perfectly understood that the treaty did not include British Hondaras." "It was nu-

American States of Guatemala, Honduras, San Salvador, gua, and Costa Rica, with their dependencies Now, sir, here were two subjects, both legitimate objects of inquiry for any American, and especially for any American Senator, who had taken part in this rati Scation, and the pursuit of which, if conducted in a decorcus manner, could give no just cause of offer to any one; and more particularly was it the right, the duty, ndeed, of any member of this body, whose views or actions were not correctly represented, to embrace the first fayor

derstood to apply to, and does include all the Centra

ormity with these suggestions, and submitted my views o the Senate, and through the Senate to the country, and in doing so there were peculiar reasons affecting mysif and some other Senators, who occupied a similar tuation and who have already borne their testim my are to the justice of the considerations I presented, hich rendered the duty of self vindication an imperative ie. The vote of the democratic party in the Senate upon a ratification of this treaty was divided, some opposing

d some supporting it. Du ing the discussions a number the democratic members confidently predicted that the rargement would prove abouter, and that we should Il in the effort to regree British power and influence

om Çentral America. My friend from Indiana, who sits par me, (Mr. B.ight,) was among the most decided in is hostility to the treaty, and as I said upon a former

ser me, (Mr. B.ight,) was among the most decided in is hostility to the treaty, and as I said upon a former tonsion, whether his prediction was the result of inject or of judgment I know not; but certainly me has put the seal of truth upon his siniter rebodings, and he may now say to us in the ords of that comfurtable old saw. I lold you so, nealously acrocated the treaty. I had more than one neversation with the Senator from Delaware respecting during the progress of the negotiation. He did make honor to consult me, as well as other Senators of both arties, and i carnestly recommended to him to go on an insummate the work, expressing my coubte, however, of a accomplishment of his expect silons, but savering him at if he succeeded he would render a signal service to a country. And why old I estimate so highly the proceed arrangement? Because it contemplated the recoval of British power and influence from Gentral Ammatrue Central America—as it thought, and i considered at measure both in its present and future aspects, a cart political object most desirable to be peacefully objust a Tones of us who profess aliegiance to the Man certifie, and who advocated the ratid action of this saty, were accused if iconnaitency then, and the accuration has been repeated since, with a good deal of ear stress and got a little sarcasm; and also of sacrificing great political principle to a mere temporary expendent. President, so far as this question of rail inaction is inved, with the lights before us, I had no doubt then and inventor regret now, respecting the course which he Se to sanctioned. It is not a little currious that some of this act, were refress and to decided opposition. Now, sir, are no design to sacrifice a great national avantage to insure their co-operation. Nor do they lead their it to put it is a form he guith their own views, shich the Se to sanctioned. It is not a little currious that some of this area of the want of proper decision, we are ebligad accommodate currentees the best way we can to tastif to put

divided condition of its States, rivals, and easily swayed divided conditions of the manus. In the same at importances to the efficit to place them beyond any external action and the same and th

treaty we saperlated was not totated by other of an any payly." And there staminates, of course, all differences, so far as the supplications were consecuted properties of the paylor o

by capth, to be askinsted," and much more of this sort, but which laws into keep for schooling, which we shall have into keep for schooling, and the state of the profite which we shall have into keep for schooling and the state of the school have been and the state of the school have been and the state of the school have been and the school have been andeed to the school have been and the school have been and the scho

and jurisdiction of Great Britain over a certain pertion of Honduras, should be recognised by the United States,) had been yielded to in all its extent, instead of being abandoned. **Ze. Now. **ir, it is not preleaded! had any participation in this misuaderstanding. The "supposed statiment of facts" was the result of Colonel King's impressions, and this is dan constrable from the circumstance to which I have before alluded When I estret the roem seeding the interview with Colonel King. I found him reading the *Invitain percer.** which contained the official documents on this subject. then jost published. He was quite ill, though fully able to converse; but it is not probabe he had examined the papers with the attention he would have befored upon them had he been in exter health. *Judge Bragg says Colonel King suppose the British demand of the recognition of title had been yielded to *Most awared.*

In such demand was made, so far as I know—certainly none is disclosed by the pap-ra—and it was therefore an all gation I could reither make nor contradict, as I had not the slightest in viveledge of the circumstance Having new redeemed myself from any charge of misuaderstanding or mire presenting Colonel King. I return to the accusation of the Senator from Delawa e. He says that afterwards—that is, after the publication of Colonel King's note, and his denial personally of the truth of my statement—it appears from the card of Judge Bragg I came into the Senate chamber and reterated the accusation Judge Bragg does state that I reiterated my previous assertion, but nothing more: but the Senator says it does not appear by the debates that I did so. In this the honorable member is in error. He will find, by referring to the Senate chamber and reterated the accusation from Senator to the Senate suppose, because he published the note of Col King, accuracy, but I was responsible for Col King, accuracy, but I was responsible for my own—that is, that Col King this statement, and the respection of the statement, and the respect

The declaration repeated by Mr. Soulé and a portion of the letter of Judge Bragg, are only to be reconciled by this supposition. "He took me," as a provide Bragg, what till thus day, he supposed the provide Bragg, what till thus day, he supposed the provide Bragg, what till thus day, he supposed the provide Bragg, what till thus day, he supposed the provide Bragg, what the treaty stood upon its own providens—that the treaty ratised by the British govern men. Precisely at the does not be the body of the best part of the body of t